

# Violence Prevention in EMS

Violence against EMS providers is a common occupational hazard. Follow these best practices to help keep you safe and prevent violent situations:



## #1

**Priority.** Most importantly, remember you are the number one priority, and it is OK to leave a patient to protect your safety.



**Partnerships.** Build community partnerships to understand potential dangers and educate citizens on EMS capabilities.



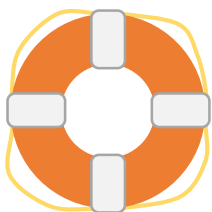
**Awareness.** Maintain Situational Awareness at all times. Never take your eyes off of the patient or bystanders. Work as a team with your partner(s) to keep a 360-degree view.



**Communication.** Plan with your team all possible entrances, exits and escape routes. Ensure your team is on the same radio frequency during response in case an emergency arises.



**Compassion.** Use compassionate social skills to promote a calm, soothing attitude, and avoid sensitive subjects allowing you to gain trust and cooperation with the patient and bystanders.



**Assistance.** Request necessary assistance and police backup if the potential for violence is present. Remember, while others can help, you must always take responsibility for your own safety.